

over a prolonged period may lead to fluorosis. As per Bureau of Indian Standards, the permissible limit for fluoride in drinking water is 1.5mg/l. Any habitation having fluoride contamination beyond 1.5 mg/l, in drinking water sources is considered as "fluoride affected habitation".

(c) Four districts in Rajasthan, 22 districts in Assam and all the 30 districts in Orissa, are affected with excess iron in drinking water, as reported by the State Governments as per the water quality survey ordered in March, 2000.

(d) The fluoride problem is geogenic in nature and worsen due to over-exploitation of ground water. The quality of drinking water of various sources is periodically monitored for various parameters including fluoride, by the District Water Quality Testing Laboratories set up with funding from Government of India and State Governments with reference to the water quality standards laid down by the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM) as per IS:10500 standard. A community based National Rural Drinking Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance Programme has been launched in the country which aims at testing various parameters including fluoride for all drinking water sources by the Grass-root level workers in each Panchayat by simple-to-use field test kits.

Pending proposal from M.P. under SGSY

†2396. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals from Madhya Pradesh pending with Central Government under a special project of Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana; and

(b) the present status of these proposals and by when the same would be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) As on date,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

63 proposals for Special Projects have been received by Government from the Government of Madhya Pradesh under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY). Out of 63 proposals, 22 proposals were approved and 25 proposals were returned to State Government as they were not found in accordance with the SGSY Special Project Guidelines. The remaining 16 proposals are under different stages of processing. On receipt of the proposal from the State Government, it is appraised in the Ministry and is placed before two Inter-Ministerial Committees for approval. These Committees are Project Screening Committee (PSC) and Project Approval Committee (PAC). If the Committees make certain observations to improve and make effective the proposal, the same are sent to State Government for compliance. As such, appraisal, rectification and approval of the projects are a continuous process.

PMGSY in Rajasthan

2397. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes undertaken under PMGSY since January, 2004 in Rajasthan, to provide connectivity to all unconnected habitations in rural areas, and the achievements thereof;

(b) the details of schemes under PMGSY pertaining to Rajasthan that are still under consideration of his Ministry; and

(c) since when these schemes are pending and the reasons for their pendency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) 6160 roadworks valued at Rs. 3408.22 crores covering a length of 20706.10 kms. have been approved under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) since January, 2004 in respect of Rajasthan. 2085 roadworks for a length of 7565 kms. have been completed and 2214 eligible habitations have been connected. No project proposal under PMGSY is pending with the Ministry of Rural Development as on date.